Steps to Check Secessionist Activities

*410. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV:
SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any special programme for the Indians living abroad to utilise their services in its efforts to strengthen national integrity and to fight against the secessionist elements in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government had sent any cultural troupe and joint sports delegations to Canada, USA, UK and Germany to rebut the false newspaper propaganda against India in those countries;

(d) if so, the details of such visits undertaken during the last three years; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (e). Indians living abroad form a very important segment of the local society and it is the continuing endeavour of the Ministry of External affairs to have the closest possible interaction with them and to keep them fully abreast of developments concerning India. Special efforts are made to associate our nationals living abroad, based on their sense of belonging to India, to project the true picture of Indian developments in order to counter secessionist elements and their propaganda.

Our Diplomatic Missions in these countries are in regular contact with a wide cross-section of Indian community leaders and their media and other opinion makers to brief them on developments in India and our position on various issues.

Cultural delegations which are sent abroad essentially project the variety and richness and the cohesion in plurality of the Indian polity and Indian society. This in itself effectively negates secessionist elements and secessionist tendencies.

[*English*]

Development of Gasohol as a Substitute for Petrol

*411. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mysore Sugar has developed 'gasohol' blend as a substitute for petrol;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration to encourage other sugar units for similar ventures?

THE MINISTER OF PERTOLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). According to the State Government of Karnataka, the Mysore Sugar Company has conducted a trial on a vehicle using an admixture of alcohol and petrol.

(c) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government of India at present.

[*Translation*]

Iron and Steel Distribution Control Order

*412. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state: